JUST A FEW WORDS

IN COMMEMORATION OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY OF LINCOLN'S BIRTH, FEBRUARY 12TH 1909

FEBRUARY 12TH, 1809

"Friend, the Lord prefers common looking people: that is why he made so many of them."

A. Lincoln.

Abraham Lincoln

A PLAIN man of the people, an extraordinary fortune attended him. His occupying the chair of State was a triumph of the good sense of mankind and of the public conscience. . . . He grew according to the need: his mind mastered the problem of the day: and as the problem grew, so did his comprehension of it. Rarely was a man so fitted to the event. . . It cannot be said that there is any exaggeration of his worth. If ever a man was tested, he was. There was no lack of resistance, nor of slander, nor of ridicule. . . . Then what an occasion was the whirlwind of the war! Here was no place for holiday magistrate, nor fair-weather sailor; the new pilot was hurried to the helm in a tornado. In four years—four years of battle days—his endurance, his fertility of resourses, his magnanimity, were sorely tried and never found wanting. Then by his courage, his justice, his even temper, his fertile counsel, his humanity, he stood a heroic figure in the center of a heroic Epoch. He is the true history of the American people in his time; the true representative of this continent—father of his country, the pulse of twenty millions throbbing in his heart, the thought of their minds articulated by his tongue.

Ralph Waldo Emerson.

A. Lincoln

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